



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 262

February Session, 2010

Substitute Senate Bill No. 409

Senate, April 1, 2010

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM USING CIVILIAN VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF STATE AND MUNICIPAL LAWS CONCERNING PARKING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES THAT LIMIT OR IMPAIR THE ABILITY TO WALK AND PERSONS WITH BLINDNESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective January 1, 2011*) (a) The Commissioner of Motor
2 Vehicles, in conjunction with the police departments of three
3 municipalities, shall conduct a pilot program for improved
4 enforcement of the provisions of state statutes and municipal
5 ordinance codes concerning handicapped parking, with the assistance
6 of civilian volunteers.

7 (b) Any municipality that wishes to participate in the pilot program
8 shall apply to the commissioner. The commissioner shall select three
9 municipalities from among such applicants, one of which shall have a
10 population of less than twenty thousand, one of which shall have a
11 population of twenty thousand or more, but not exceeding fifty

12 thousand, and one of which shall have a population exceeding fifty
 13 thousand. The police department of each municipality shall invite
 14 residents of such municipality to participate in such program as
 15 civilian volunteers. Volunteers shall be selected by the chief of police
 16 with the approval of the legislative body.

17 (c) Volunteers shall drive to parking locations and shall observe
 18 motor vehicles parked in spaces designated as "Handicapped Parking".
 19 If a motor vehicle does not display a placard or number plates
 20 permitting it to park in such space, or if the placard or number plates
 21 have expired, the volunteer shall take photographs of such vehicle in
 22 accordance with instructions provided by the police department. The
 23 volunteer shall complete an affidavit supplied by the police
 24 department and shall submit the photographs and affidavit to the
 25 police department. The department shall review the photographs and
 26 the affidavit and, if appropriate, shall issue a summons to the
 27 registered owner of such motor vehicle. The state shall remit to each
 28 municipality participating in the pilot program established by this
 29 section twenty-five per cent of the amount received with respect to
 30 each summons issued by such municipality for a violation of section
 31 14-253a of the general statutes.

32 (d) On or before January 1, 2012, the Department of Motor Vehicles
 33 shall submit a report on such pilot program to the joint standing
 34 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 35 relating to motor vehicles, in accordance with the provisions of section
 36 11-4a of the general statutes. The report shall describe the program
 37 conducted by each municipality and the results of each such program,
 38 including the number of volunteers who participated and the number
 39 of violations of the provisions of (1) section 14-253a of the general
 40 statutes, and (2) municipal ordinance codes, for which a summons was
 41 issued.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2011	New section

Section 1	January 1, 2011	New section
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TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Note: TF=Transportation Fund; GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
Various Municipalities	Cost/Revenue Gain	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Explanation

Violations issued through this program would result in a potential minimal revenue gain for both the state and the three participating municipalities. The state would remit 25% of the revenue to participating municipalities for each violation they issue. Per CGS Sec. 14-253a(1), a first violation is subject to a \$150 fine and all subsequent violations are subject to a \$250 fine.

The revenue will depend on the number of violations issued. In 2008, there were in total approximately 400 violations with associated fines to CGS Sec.14-253a.

The reporting requirements mandated by the bill would not result in additional cost to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The cost for municipalities that choose to participate in the pilot program could be offset by the revenue gain from 25% of summons issued under 14-253a.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 409

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SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 30 Nay 6 (03/16/2010)